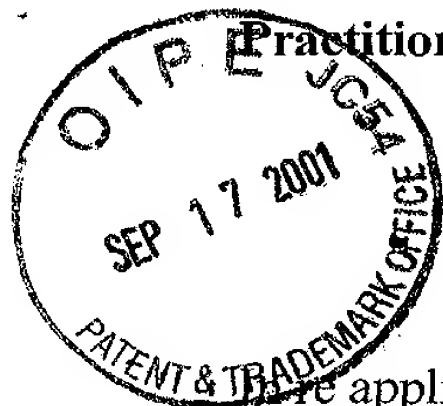


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PATENT



Practitioner's Docket No. 6193.US.P1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of: P. A. Billing-Medel *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/193,538

Filed: November 17, 1998

Group No.: 1655

Examiner: J. Squaya

For: REAGENTS AND METHODS USEFUL FOR DETECTING DISEASES OF THE BREAST

Box CPA

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"Express Mail" label number EL507385202US

Date of Deposit: September 17, 2001

I hereby state that the following *attached* papers or fees

Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) Request Transmittal -3 pgs. (in duplicate)

Preliminary Amendment - 9 pgs. with Exhibit A

Request for Extension of Time - 1 pg.

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Signature of person mailing paper or fee

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Preliminary Amendment
SN 09/193,538
Page 1

PATENTS
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: P.A. Billing-Medel, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/193,538

Filed: November 17, 1998

For: REAGENTS AND METHODS USEFUL
FOR DETECTING DISEASES OF THE
BREAST

Examiner: J. Souaya

Group Art Unit: 1655

Attorney Docket No.: 6193.US.P1

Date: September 4, 2001

Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR §1.8(a):

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Wanda E. Smith

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box CPA
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Advisory Action dated August 3, 2001. A Notice of Appeal was filed on March 16, 2001. Claims 1-13, 15-22, 38, 41 and 45-49 are currently under examination. A four-month extension of time accompanies this response, extending the time to respond from May 16, 2001 to September 17, 2001. The first business day since the due date fell on a weekend.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-13, 15-22, 38, 41 and 45-49. Please add new claims 52-78 as follows: